

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

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«FirstName» «LastName», Medical Director
 «Company»
 «Address1»
 «City», «State» «PostalCode»

Dear «Title». «LastName»:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the minimum performance levels that have been established for the External Accountability Set measures. The Medi-Cal Managed Care Division established the minimum performance levels in consultation with the External Quality Review Organization and the Quality Improvement Work Group.

The minimum performance levels for HEDIS measures included in the NCQA HEDIS National Medicaid Percentiles will be set at the 25th percentile as most recently presented by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). For measures not included in the NCQA HEDIS National Medicaid Percentiles, the minimum performance level will continue to be set at the Medi-Cal managed care health plan average for the measure for the previous year minus one standard deviation from the average.

The minimum performance levels will be in effect for the year(s) following publication of the levels from NCQA. When new NCQA percentiles are released, the minimum percentile level will be changed for the next reporting cycle. All plans will be notified of changes. The following list of HEDIS Measurements and percentiles are the minimum performance levels for data reported in years 2002/2003.

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| • Childhood Immunization (Combination 1) | 41.75% |
| • Asthma Medication Management (Combined) | 45.58% |
| • Perinatal Care (Timeliness of Prenatal Care) | 51.58% |
| • Perinatal Care (Postpartum Care) | 41.49% |
| • Well Child Care (0-15 months, 6 or more visits) | 18.12% |
| • Well Child Care (Ages 3-6 years) | 39.07%* |
| • Adolescent Well Care | 19.40% |
| • Diabetic Retinal Eye Exam | 26.76%** |

The Department, in collaboration with the Quality Improvement Work Group and the External Quality Review Organization, has also established levels of performance to

* This measure applies to Two-Plan Model and Geographic Managed Care Model health plans only

** This measure applies to County Operated Health Systems only



recognize those plans that have demonstrated high levels of performance in the external accountability set. The high performance levels for HEDIS measures included in the NCQA HEDIS National Medicaid Percentiles will be at the 90th percentile presented in the most recent publication. For measures not included in the NCQA HEDIS National Medicaid Percentiles, the high performance level will continue to be set at the Medi-Cal managed care health plan average for the measure for the previous year plus one standard deviation from the average.

The following list of HEDIS measurements and percentiles will be the levels which plans need to meet to achieve high levels of performance in data collection years 2002/2003.

• Childhood Immunization (Combination 1)	69.34%
• Asthma Medication Management (Combined)	66.44%
• Perinatal Care (Timeliness of Prenatal Care)	79.45%
• Perinatal Care (Postpartum Care)	62.53%
• Well Child Care (0-15 months, 6 or more visits)	57.91%
• Well Child Care (Ages 3-6 years)	68.22%*
• Adolescent Well Care	44.45%
• Diabetic Retinal Eye Exam	61.11%**

In the next several weeks, the health plans will receive their individual performance measure rates for data collected in 2001 and will be able to determine how their rates compare to the established MPLs and HPLs. The Office of Clinical Standards and Quality will provide technical assistance as necessary for health plans that have demonstrated difficulty in reaching the minimum performance level for any measure. Plans with continuing problems meeting MPLs will be required to furnish a corrective action plan. We will continue to monitor the progress of all health plans in improving the quality of care delivered to health plan members.

If you have any questions regarding the information in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 657-1418.

Sincerely,

Laura Blank, Chief, RN, MSN
Office of Clinical Standards and Quality

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